**NEWS RELEASE** 

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Sam D. Hamilton Noxubee NWR 2970 Bluff Lake Road

Brooksville MS 39739 Phone: 662/323-5548

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE August 10, 2012

**Public Invited to Comment on Forest Management Operations on the Refuge** 

Contact: Andrea Dunstan

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The Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), Sam D. Hamilton Noxubee National Wildlife Refuge (Refuge) invites the public to comment on plans to implement forest management operations in Compartment 10, Stands 8, 10, 15 and 21 and Compartment 27, Stands 7 and 11. The proposed action would allow the Service to implement the 2012 Forest Management Prescriptions thereby thinning 199 acres of pine-hardwood forest to 60 ft²/ac of basal area for the benefit of wildlife including the Red-Cockaded Woodpecker.

A copy of the forest management prescription and associated environmental documents can be obtained at the Starkville-Oktibbeha County Library (326 University Drive, Starkville, MS), Noxubee County Library (100 West Main Street, Brooksville, MS & 103 East King Street, Macon, MS), Winston County Library (301 West Park Street, Louisville, MS), the refuge's visitor center or by visiting the refuge's website under the "What's Happening" page (http://www.fws.gov/noxubee/noxnews.htm).

The comment period closes on August 27, 2012. Comments can be sent to Project Leader, 2970 Bluff Lake Road, Brooksville MS 39739 or emailed with "Comments" in the subject line to: Noxubee@fws.gov.

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